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rufescens D. & H. on *Pedicularis semibarbata*, *Aecidium collinsiae* Em. & Ev. on *Collinsia bicolor* and an *Aecidium* (species as yet undetermined) on *Pentstemon confertus*. The two species of *Puccinia* present decidedly different characters from those of the species to which the snapdragon disease is due and it is very improbable that the latter is correlated with either of the two *Aecidia*. The first mentioned species has been found but once in the Bay Region and then in very small amounts, the latter is known only from the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Further than this, badly infected snapdragon plants have been placed in close proximity to patches of various species of *Collinsia*, growing in the Botanic Garden of the University of California, for two seasons but the *Aecidium* has never appeared. Attempts to infect various other species of *scrophulariaceous* genera with the disease have been successful in three instances only. During the past season it was found that plants of the native *Antirrhinum vagans*, grown from seed, were attacked with nearly the same degree of destructiveness as the cultivated species. Also plants of *Linaria reticulata* and *L. amethystina* were attacked by the disease, but to a much less degree than the other species. No differences could be detected in the characters of the fungus grown on the four different host plants. Presumably then the snapdragon rust originated on the wild form of *Antirrhinum* but thus far the disease has never been found on plants growing spontaneously though diligent search has been made for it whenever the opportunity was offered. The only alternative is to assume that it is a case of adaption of a species from a host plant belonging to a different order. The destructive character of the disease would render it wise to guard against introducing it into other regions.

A NEW SPECIES OF SIROTHECIUM.

A. P. MORGAN.

In the *Symbolae ad Mycologiam* XX, p. 105, 1887, Karsten founded a new genus *Sirothecium* upon a single species, see Saccardo, *Sylloge* X, p. 270. This genus is more than merely a "phaeosporous *Sirococcus*;" it is probably more closely related to certain species of *Hormococcus* or *Trullula*. The following species rests well in Karsten's new genus.

SIROTHECIUM NIGRUM Morgan sp. nov.—Perithecia superficial, gregarious, subglobose, astomous, glabrous, black; the wall thin and fragile, dehiscing irregularly; the enclosed mass of spores brown. The hyphae wholly abjoined into long slender,

branched chains of spores, which readily fall apart. Spores cylindric, obtuse at both ends, smoky-pellucid, 5-6x2.5 mic.

Growing on wood and bark of *Acer*, under the bark; Preston, Ohio. The perithecia 100-150 mic. in diameter, loosely attached to the matrix, scattered or often closely crowded.

A SERIES OF SPECIMENS ILLUSTRATING NORTH AMERICAN USTILAGINEAE.

A. B. SEYMOUR.

In 1884, under the direction and encouragement of Professor T. J. Burrill, I prepared a systematic account of the Ustilagineae of Illinois, based chiefly on my collections of 1881 and 1882 and intended to be co-ordinate with the "Illinois Uredineae." But no botanical publications in this series were issued for many years and this manuscript with others remained untouched. Finally Mr. G. P. Clinton took up the study of the group, and with Professor Burrill's approval I consigned my interests to the former.

In nearly twenty years that have elapsed Mr. Clinton has been able to double the list of Illinois species. In addition to his years of study and his economic writings on the group in Illinois, he has recently spent two years at Harvard, where he has completed an exhaustive monograph of the North American species. His preliminary account was published in the *Journal of Mycology* for October, 1902.

The series of specimens to which reference is here made, was published under date of January 1, 1903, to illustrate Dr. Clinton's monograph. The specimens are those accumulated by both of us through our own collecting and by exchanges. They have all been verified and put in envelopes by Dr. Clinton. Fifteen other botanists have contributed specimens.

Of the 100 numbers, 63 are from Illinois, 19 from Massachusetts. Maine, New York and Mississippi each supply two. Jamaica and eleven states contribute one each.

Dr. Clinton's paper records 181 species and varieties with numerous hosts and localities. This fascicle of specimens contains 66 species and varieties representing 100 hosts or localities. Evidently much remains to be done in a future fascicle.

All botanists are invited to contribute additional material for distribution.

The main series of specimens entitled *Economic Fungi* is planned to illustrate plant diseases from a practical standpoint. One hundred copies are prepared and nearly every important